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"INDIANA LOST A GIANT"

Washington, Mar 11, 2004 - Pence pays tribute to former Indiana Governor Orr

Washington, D.C.— Congressman Mike Pence paid tribute former Indiana Governor Robert D. Orr today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Pence's speech follows:

"Mr. Speaker, last night the State of Indiana lost a giant in the field of education reform and economic recovery. The Honorable Robert D. Orr passed away at Indiana University Medical Center from a heart arrhythmia.

"Governor Orr served eight years in the state's top office, serving from 1981 to 1989. He spurred Indiana's economy out of a recession and overhauled its education system. He also oversaw the removal of the state license branch system from political control and led an aggressive effort to promote the export of Indiana products.

"But, Mr. Speaker, his work did not begin in 1981 nor did it stop in 1989. Robert Orr enlisted in the Army in 1942 and was commissioned a major for his service in the Pacific theater during World War II. At the end of the war, he went to Evansville and entered the family business, Orr Iron Co. He served as Vanderburgh County Republican chairman and was elected to the state Senate in 1968 before being elected lieutenant governor.

"After leaving the office of Governor, Bob Orr was named U.S. Ambassador to Singapore and helped build an international relationship that America still enjoys today.

"Mr. Speaker, Hoosiers will remember Governor Orr for all of these great achievements and his wise actions. But they will most remember him for the humility that governed his wisdom...for Governor Orr embodied that very verse in Proverbs... "with humility comes wisdom."

"Mr. Speaker, I mourn the death of the Honorable Robert D. Orr and send my heartfelt condolences to his wife Mary on behalf of all Hoosiers."

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